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Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2011 South Clark Place Customer Window, Mail Stop RCE Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1803 Arlington, VA 22202

09/593,866-Conf. #8166
June 14, 2000
Masaki Katayama
2643
L. Y. Lao
T2171.0184/P184

#13 5/5/04

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
a. x Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked. i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
ii. X Other Amendment previously filed on March 16, 2004. MAY 0 4 2004
b. Enclosed
i. Amendment/Reply iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv. Other
2. Miscellaneous
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a
period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
b. Other 3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
a The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No
i. X RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
ii. X Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
iii. Other
b. Check in the amount of \$ enclosed
c. X Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED
Name (Print/Type) Joseph W. Ragusa Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 38,586
Signature Date April 28, 2004

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